

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A coating material comprising

- (I) a component comprising at least one oligomeric or polymeric resin containing functional groups which react with isocyanate groups, as binder (A),
- (II) a component comprising at least one polyisocyanate as crosslinking agent (B), and
- (III) a component which comprises water,

wherein at least one of component (I) or (III) comprise at least one substantially unbranched, hydrophobic polyester (C) comprising at least two hydroxyl groups in the molecule, an OH number of from 56 to 500 mg KOH/g, an acid number <10 mg KOH/g and a number-average molecular weight M_n of from 300 to 2 000 daltons wherein the substantially unbranched, hydrophobic polyester has the general formula 1



wherein:

R = substituted or unsubstituted divalent C₁ to C₂₀ alkanediyl, C₂ to C₂₀ alkenediyl, C₄ to C₂₀ cycloalkanediyl or cycloalkenediyl, C₆ to C₁₂ arylidene, [or] divalent C₆ to C₂₀ arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylcycloalkyl or arylcycloalkenyl radical; or substituted or unsubstituted divalent aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, acyclic or cyclic olefinically unsaturated, aromatic, aliphatic-aromatic, cycloaliphatic-aromatic, acyclic unsaturated aromatic or cyclic unsaturated aromatic radical which contains at least one carboxylic ester group;

R¹ = hydrogen atom or monovalent substituted or unsubstituted C₁ to C₂₀ alkyl, C₂ to C₂₀ alkenyl, C₄ to C₁₂ cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl, C₆ to C₁₂ aryl or C₆ to C₂₀ arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylcycloalkyl, arylcycloalkenyl, alkylaryl, alkenylaryl, cycloalkylaryl, cycloalkenylaryl, alkylcycloalkyl, alkylcycloalkenyl, alkenylcycloalkyl, alkenylcycloalkenyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkenylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl or cycloalkenylalkenyl radical.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The coating material of claim 21, wherein radical R comprises at least one hydroxyl group.
4. (Currently Amended) The coating material of claim 21, wherein radical R¹ is substituted by at least one substituent selected from -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -CN, -NO₂, -OH, -OR², -SH, -SR², -NH₂, -NHR², -N(NR²)₂, -OOC-R², and mixtures thereof, and R² = monovalent substituted or unsubstituted C1 to C20 alkyl, C2 to C20 alkenyl, C4 to C12 cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl, C6 to C12 aryl or C6 to C20 arylalkyl, arylalkenyl, arylcycloalkyl, arylcycloalkenyl, alkylaryl, alkenylaryl, cycloalkylaryl, cycloalkenylaryl, alkylcycloalkyl, alkylcycloalkenyl, alkenylcycloalkyl, alkenylcycloalkenyl, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkenylalkyl, cycloalkylalkenyl or cycloalkenylalkenyl radical.
5. (Currently Amended) The coating material of claim 21, wherein radical R¹ is a methyl group which is monosubstituted by -OOC-R², radical R² being a branched C₄ to C₁₂ alkyl radical.
6. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, wherein the functional groups which react with isocyanate groups are hydroxyl groups.
7. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, wherein component (III) comprises at least one binder (A).
8. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, wherein at least one of components (I) and (II) comprises at least one binder (A) which is dispersible or soluble in water.
9. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 8, wherein binder (A) comprises at least one functional group selected from
 - (i) functional groups which may be converted into cations by neutralizing agents and/or quaternizing agents, and/or cationic groups,

- (ii) functional groups which may be converted into anions by neutralizing agents, and/or anionic groups,
 - (iii) nonionic hydrophilic groups.
10. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 21, characterized in that the binder (A) comprises at least one functional group (ii) selected from carboxylic acid groups, carboxylate groups, and mixtures thereof.
11. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 7, characterized in that in component (III) at least a portion of binder (A) is present as powder slurry particles.
12. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 10 or 11, wherein at least one of component (I) and (III) comprise at least one binder (A) selected from
- (A1) an acrylate copolymer (A1) which is dispersible or soluble in at least one organic solvents, comprises hydroxyl groups, at least one functional group selected from carboxylic acid groups, carboxylate groups, and mixtures thereof, and has a number-average molecular weight M_n of between 1 000 and 30 000 daltons, an OH number of from 40 to 200 mg KOH/g and an acid number of from 5 to 150 mg KOH/g,
 - (A2) a hydrophilic water-dispersible polyester resin (A2) which is dispersible or soluble in at least one organic solvents, comprises hydroxyl groups, at least one functional group selected from carboxylic acid groups, carboxylate groups, and mixtures thereof, and has a number-average molecular weight M_n of between 1 000 and 30 000 daltons, an OH number of from 30 to 250 mg KOH/g and an acid number of from 15 to 150 mg KOH/g,
 - (A3) a polyurethane resin (A3) which is dispersible or soluble in at least one organic solvents, comprises hydroxyl groups, at least one functional group selected from carboxylic acid groups, carboxylate groups, and mixtures thereof, and has a number-average molecular weight M_n of between 1 000 and 30 000 daltons, an OH number of from 20 to 200 mg KOH/g and an acid number of from 5 to 150 mg KOH/g,

and mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, characterized in that at least one of components (I), (II) and (III) comprise as further crosslinking agent (B') at least one crosslinking agent selected from epoxide compounds comprising at least two epoxide groups per molecule, amino resins, blocked polyisocyanates, tris(alkoxy-carbonylamino)triazines, siloxanes, polyanhydrides, beta-hydroxyalkylamides, and mixtures thereof.
14. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, further comprising (V) a finely divided solid component comprising at least one water-soluble or dispersible, finely divided solid binder (A).
15. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, wherein the polyester (C) is made by reacting hydroxydicarboxylic acids with epoxides.
16. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 1, wherein the polyester (C) is made by reacting dicarboxylic acids with one or more polyols selected from diols, triols, tetrols, and mixtures thereof, and reacting the resultant polyesters with epoxides.
17. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 16, characterized in that the molar ratio of hydroxyl groups to carboxyl groups in the case of the diols is 1.0, in the case of the triols is 1.5 and in the case of the tetrols is 2.0.
18. (Previously Presented) A process of coating a substrate, comprising applying to a substrate the coating material of claim 1.
19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 19 wherein the applied coating material is at least one coating selected from aqueous coatings, clearcoat coatings, basecoat coatings, primer coatings, topcoat coatings, and mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 8, wherein both of components (I) and (II) comprise at least one binder (A) which is dispersible or soluble in water.
21. (Previously Presented) The coating material of claim 9, wherein binders (A) comprise at least one functional group selected from (i)sulfonium groups, (ii)carboxylic acid and/or carboxylate groups, and (iii)poly(alkylene ether) groups.